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### REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

*Europe and America, or the relative state of the civilized world, at a future period.*—Translated from the German of Dr. C. F. von Schmidt-Phiseldek, doctor of philosophy, one of his Danish Majesty's counsellors of state, Knight of Dannebrog, &c. &c. &c. By Joseph Owen. Copenhagen 1820. p. 257.

This book is not less curious in its doctrines than in the place and manner of its publication. An elaborate treatise on the subject of the prospects of the United States, would hardly be expected to issue from the Danish press; nor would it readily have occurred to us to look for a warm friend to this country, among his Danish majesty's counsellors of state.

In Germany, it is said (in the translator's preface) to have met a most favourable reception, and translations have been made into French and Danish. This fact speaks much in favour of the practical liberty of the press in Europe, for the opinions advanced are much at variance with the established theories of legitimacy and despotic government.

The object of Dr. Phiseldek is to show that America will soon exceed Europe in power, resources, wealth and population, and that all dependence, whether colonial or commercial will then be cut off.—That Europe deprived of the advantages now drawn from her intercourse with the western hemisphere, must necessarily undergo important changes—among which he points out a general bankruptcy of the governments, as inevitable; and the abolition of all restrictions upon trade, as highly advisable.

The translation is the worst imaginable, but that is of less consequence in a work of grave logical discussion than it would be in one that pretended, in the original, to any degree of rhetorical elegance.

A rapid but comprehensive retrospect is thus taken of the situation of the world, at the period of the American revolution.

The fourth of July, in the Year 1776 points out the commencement of a new period in the history of the world.—Not provoked to resistance, by the intolerable oppression of tyrannical power, but embittered by the arbitrary encroachments upon well earned, and hitherto publicly acknowledged privileges, the people of the United States of North America, declared themselves, on that memorable day, independent of the dominion of the British Islands, generally speaking, mild and benevolent in itself, and under which they had hitherto stood, as a colony, in a state, not of slavish servitude, but of partial guardianship, under the protection of the mother country.

England, who disdained to stand upon a footing of equality with its former wards and to resign the guardianship, it had so long maintained, prolonged the conflict, as long as any hopes of success remained, and drew the rest of Europe into the domestic quarrel, either for or against the cause of independence. The spark that had once been kindled, being by these means carried to this side of the ocean, readily met with combustible materials here, and a spirit of inquiry into the rights of man, and a struggling after a lawful independence, consequently after forms of government, which should be able to protect the individual, against the arbitrary hand of power, had from the other side, laid hold of the more enlightened heads; and the commencement of the French fermentations, which more or less electrified all Europe, followed almost immediately upon the peace of Paris (the 20th January 1783,) which associated North America as an independent state, with the ancient body of nations.—

The newly-formed Republic constituted itself\* on principles which promised the confederacy, enlargement and consistency, not derived from the conquest of subject provinces, but from the junction of new States, which must shortly arise in its extensive territories under the influence of an increasing population. This result happened earlier, and upon a much larger scale, than the most sanguine expectations could have prognosticated, and America proved very soon, that she was not alone capable of existing as a state, but that she meant to take an active part in the affairs of the world, the discussion and arrangement of which, had hitherto been left to the nations of Europe; by which she was aiming a blow at the

general system of European politics. As early as 1803, she displayed her standard in the Mediterranean, chastizing the piratical state of Tripolis, and twenty years after the foundation of a solid constitution, the jealousy of Great Britain kindled the first hostile spark which being once more stirred up from the ashes, by the attack made on the English Sloop of war, the Little Belt, burst out into open flames, which were only extinguished three years later, by the peace of Ghent.

By these occurrences, which we have here only cursorily touched upon, the North American independent state, had tried her strength, preserved her dignity, by the rejection of illegal pretensions, and vigorously proved and maintained her right, as an active member in the scale of nations, to take part in the grand affairs of the civilized world. From that moment, the impulse towards a new change of events, ceased to proceed exclusively from the old continent, and it is possible, that in a short time it will emanate wholly from the new one.

The revolt of the south American provinces is next alluded to; and the state of Europe, before and since the fall of Napoleon is noticed—with the following reflections upon this part of the subject:

Thus it appears, that, since the intoxication of republicanism is evaporated, and military autocracy has been subverted by the too great distention of its own inherent despotic principles, the universal tendency of Europe inclines to a legally free constitution, in which the legislative and economical self-deliberations of the people, are opposed to the elements of monarchy, a power irresistibly operative in its own sphere, not instituted by virtue of election or by summons, but having emerged, as it were by the divine will, from amidst the obscurity of the earliest ages, and not placed by the side of, but reclining, majestically supported by itself, above the people.—If the foundation of the former of these principles originated in the spirit of the times, and in the just claims of the people, partly summoned to independence, by their own rulers; the latter one has found a new support in the holy alliance, concluded on the 15th September, 1815, which unequivocally declares the relation in which princes, as delegates of providence, stand to their people, considered as a family entrusted to their care. It appears from the above picture, which we have hitherto regularly sketched out, that a material differ-

\* By the act of Constitution of the United States of North America of the 17th Sep. 1787.

ence stamps the character of the European and American state forms, the latter acknowledging no other power, but what is delegated, and temporary —

Nevertheless, there was much wanting to render Europe unanimous in the approbation of the principles of its new organization; not even the distribution of the several countries, can be looked upon, as definitive; and that sect, which like the Italian Carbonari, would wish to deduce the unity of nation and government, from the unity of the language, has spread itself far and wide in more than one country. The different parties are neither extirpated, nor dissolved in one another. The destruction of the ancient monarchy; after which, the overthrow of republicanism; and more lately the fall of Bonaparte, have wafted thousands of discontented (amongst whom are to be found, a great mass of intelligence, bodily abilities, and considerable pecuniary resources) to the western hemispheres, where there is scope for every species of activity without collision, for every way of thinking, toleration, with protection and security against sectarial hatred, and persecution. The agitated passions, and the fermentations inseparable from a new order of things, will still drive many thousands thither, and thus a part of the existing generation, dissatisfied with the present; afraid of taking refuge in the past; will fly the old world with all its anxieties, and settle in the new one. They will be cordially received in those immeasurable regions, where nature and government yet in happy unison, appear only to wait the diligent comer, in order to bestow on him, the most desirable of all benefits, a certain subsistence and a dignified free existence, as the price of a few years of honourable labour and active perseverance.

The probability of great and increasing emigrations to America is further set forth in the succeeding chapter, after which the question to be discussed is thus propounded:

After the foregoing discussion, we may take it for granted, that the free states of North America will increase in population, more rapidly, than any other territory, partly on account of emigrations from Europe, and partly in consequence of the acknowledged laws of population, on large tracts of land lately brought under cultivation. —

But this end will also materially be forwarded by the salutary effects of an almost universal prosperity or well being, which keeps at a distance, every mean oppression, filthy penury, hunger and those diseases arising from scanty nourishment and crowded habitations; all which tend to depress the growth and the cheerful thriving of the younger generation in those states, where children are no longer a blessing of heaven, but oftener a burthen, which brings their indigent parents and protectors to ruin. — It is natural to sup-

pose, that the increase of population, the extended cultivation of the soil, and the multiplied sources of sustenance and of trade will first lead to the cherishment of the technical and afterwards of the fine arts, as well as the abstract and useful sciences. We dare further assert, that the influence of their free form of government, will continually develop more happily in the new people, the features of independence, and that intelligence, which is animated and receives the greater stimulus, the less constraint the human faculties labour under. As the development of no power ever remains stationary, as long as no adequate counterpoise be opposed to it, it would not be too bold to advance, that the European colonies in the North-Eastern parts of America will follow the general impulse, and as, has lately been the case with both the Floridas, will unite themselves with the other independent states. —

With the same degree of probability, the observer can foresee the event of the conflict which has commenced in Spanish America, as well on this, as on the other side of the isthmus of Darien. — Nature ever asserts her rights, and this is, that the colony, at a state of majority will throw off its guardianship and will not derive its laws from the other side of the ocean, but will form them within itself, and will promulgate them internally over its whole proper independent territory. Without wishing to determine the period, or the ways and means, when and by which, the independence of these countries, the richest and most blessed by nature, of the whole globe, will shine forth in all its lustre, we have, following the course of events, considered it as an occurrence, which must infallibly take place, sooner or later; and which will be particularly favoured by external and internal influence of every description; having already at its commencement, allured over a number of fiery heads and daring adventurers, who could find no room on the confined and limited stage of European affairs. —

Without therefore for the present entering into deeper discussions, we adopt the supposition, as the basis of our inquiries; that the whole of America, to the north and south of the Isthmus, has become independent of Europe, and been formed into states, governed by their own laws, and that the West India islands, following the example of the continent lying nearest to them, have torn themselves from the European mother countries, and now ask: What will be the effects of such a change upon the civilized world in all its different parts, and what influence such a revolution of the order of things is likely to have upon Asia and Africa, being those parts of the globe, which stand at present upon the lowest step of cultivation? —

We pass, now, to the ninth chapter in which the argument begins to be fully developed.

Europe pays her present consumption

of West India and American goods, with some productions of nature, but principally with those of her fabrics and manufactories, which the American particularly values, and imports in considerable quantities. Two cases only are possible, when America, as has been shown is once enabled to supply herself with these articles. The European must either procure new markets for the consumption of his wines and oils, for his linens, shawls, hats, leather, iron, glass and fancy wares, and with the value of these, pay for the American produce, as he at present pays for tea, and other Chinese or East India goods; or a renunciation must be made of that, which is no longer to be acquired and obtained, and Europe must abdicate the throne of the world, on which nature has not ordained her to sit eternally. After the emigration of those, who may not be reconciled to the new order of things; she must, retiring within herself, endeavour to regain from her own soil, and her adjacent dependencies, by internal application, what she has suffered in external splendour, and foreign enjoyments. We will in the first place take a nearer view, of the former of these alternatives. —

Suppose we even were to lose America, it may be answered; Europe still retains her extensive East India kingdom, her Molucca islands, her numerous establishments on the coast of Africa, her colonies on the islands of the South Sea, her commercial connexion with China, with the Levant, with Arabia, Egypt and the coasts of Barbary. She will be enabled by the sale of the productions of her arts and manufactures, to procure her rice and cotton from Bengal, her coffee from Arabia, Bourbon, Isle de France, and Madagascar; her sugar from Egypt, from the African dependencies, and from the favoured island of Otaheite; her silver from her own mines, worked more attentively, and the gold she has occasion for, from the rivers and sands of Africa. Provided the European only retain the superiority of his intelligence with his spirit of enterprise, colonies will arise, in deserts now occupied by wandering hordes of barbarians; and Asia and Africa, under European management, will perhaps deposit richer treasures at the feet of the monarch of the earth, than the new continent formerly did. Moreover the commercial intercourse of America with Europe, will never be broken off suddenly and whilst the ancient channels are gradually closing up, the ever restless spirit of speculation, will long before, have opened new sources of emolument.

We allow, that the expected change will not take place suddenly, without gradual transitions, and we admit further, that industry in the new Columbian states, will first be directed principally to the bringing agriculture and the working of the mines to perfection. But as far as regards North America, it must be remembered, that several, particularly the Atlantic states, have attained, during the forty

three years of their independence, that state of culture and population, as to be able to supply some workmen and encouragement sufficient, for the establishment of fabrics and manufactories, and that the increasing emigration of artificers from Europe, who are no longer capable of finding support there, must necessarily hasten the period, when the price of labour—at present the principal obstacle to more rapid progress—must fall, on account of greater competition. There is already a considerable surplus of naval stores, train oil, tallow, spermaceti and candles for exportation; tanneries are every where in the original United States, in the most flourishing condition, and instead of the former importation of shoes and boots, many hundred thousand pair are now annually shipped. Thus every such triumph of internal industry, appropriates to itself, a branch of European emolument, and consolidates the economical independence of the Union. But the complete emancipation of Spanish and the other parts of South America, is likely to have more rapid and more extensive consequences, than that of North America, inasmuch, as, by its operations, the exportation of silver and gold which is annually made from thence to Europe, and which Humboldt reckons to be about 35 millions of piastres,\* must for the greatest part, or wholly cease. For this mass of precious metals did not come to Europe, exclusively in the ordinary course of trade, in exchange for her productions, or as payment for the surplus of a balance of commerce disadvantageous to America. It was sent for the most part, thither, as actual tribute, which the mother countries drew from their colonies, and which flowed either into the treasuries of the crowns of Spain and Portugal, to whom, besides the gain of their private domains, an aliquot part, of the net produce of all private mines, as a feudal tith, belonged, or was forwarded to the large landed proprietors, amongst whom the districts abounding in minerals had been divided since the conquest, or it was secretly introduced into Europe by private persons, who had been able to enrich themselves clandestinely in the mines.† It lays in the nature of the case, that this wealth, which arrived annually at stated periods in the western peninsula, finding no employment there, flowed in a thousand channels to those states, which worked for the Spaniard, whose majestic inacti-

vity is averse to labour, and spread itself further over the north eastern countries of Europe, in exchange for raw productions, the true aliments of industry; but, as soon as all the ties of dependency on the old world are severed for ever, these treasures must remain in their native region.\* But the immediate consequence of this must be, that the quantity of industry, which was paid and maintained in Europe, by these annual supplies of specie, must, by their failure, become stagnant, and the mass of raw productions which was furnished by one, and manufactured by another part of our quarter of the globe, so intimately connected together by those very precious metals since the discovery of America, will become superfluous. Whereas on the other hand, these treasures which for the future will remain in America, must be the means of animating the same mass of industry there, and of supplying an equal quantity of raw productions, and manufactures; whereby however, the epocha of the revolution of the existing order of things in Europe, will more quickly be brought about, than its re-establishment can possibly be accomplished by virtue of any other substituted resources.

For Europe, to be able to dispense with the intercourse with America, and the vent she has hitherto enjoyed for her productions there, and still to continue to exist in the accustomed abundance, must not alone have it in her power to retain in their fullest integrity, the remaining branches of the commerce of the world, but she must be able to extend and render them more beneficial: she must enter into new connexions, and colonize territories, which have hitherto remained inaccessible to her, in order that a new colonial system of dominion arise from the ruins of the old one, capable of making amends for what was lost and of giving fresh life to declining industry. But the necessary energy, appears to be wanting for either of these measures, and in those quarters, where such might be applied with a probability of success, she will have to encounter the competition of America, powerful even at present, and probably in a short time, decisively preponderant. The ancient colonial and commercial system of Europe was founded upon the precious metals of the new world, and the monopoly of navigation, and of every production of art and trade; it continually reposed on these pillars, and without them, will not

be able to support itself. As soon as the importation of silver into Europe, ceases, which already has begun to be the case, she must give up the trade to China and Japan, which is carried on, principally by means of bullion, and which will be then prosecuted much nearer across the Pacific from Monterey, Acapulco, Lima, La Concepcion, and even from Brazil, round Cape Horn. The Chinese and Japanese, are also likely to be on more friendly terms, with the downright trading American, than with the European, whose constant striving after dominion, they dread, and whose zeal for proselyting (subservient only to a cunning commercial policy) they detest and abhor. The state of European affairs in the East Indies, is well known; the fire which Hyder Ali, Tippo Saib, Holkar and Scindiah lighted up, continues inextinguishably to glow under a very superficial layer of ashes; and although the deposition of the latter unfortunate Mahratta prince, and the subjugation of his states, apparently completed, by the Marquis of Hastings, have once more extended, and rendered the British empire in India, for the present secure, yet, the resentment in the minds of the natives, has been the more rancorously increased, and will be continually kept in partial eruptions, by the minor warfare of the Seiks and Pindharis. The mischievous principle of founding a state on the commerce of the distant part of the world, and raising a company of English merchants, to be regents of a territory, at least fifteen times as large as the mother country, including Ireland, and containing a population of five times as many inhabitants,\* has depressed the trade of the company for a long time back, by the weight of an expensive administration; on the other hand, the spirit of trade inherent in the new sovereigns, and the mean rapaciousness of their servants, but badly kept in check, have been the means of forming a system of government, which preys upon the vitals of the state, if it may be termed such. The lasting duration of such an organization, which endeavours to unite complete heterogeneous elements—as the art of government and the prosecution of commerce—is scarcely possible, and the increase of a real surplus gain for Europe

\* The English territory proper, in the East Indies, according to William Playfair's calculations, contained, before the last conquests, 217,185 square English miles, but the tributary states, governed in fact, by the company, but administered by its vassals, consisted of 235,467, together 452,652 square miles. The subjugated Mahratta state contains, according to the same author, 447,144, thus making in the whole, 899,796 square miles. He estimates the population of the ancient territory at 23,057,300, of that which is tributary at 17,995,590, and of the Mahratta states, at 28,342,924, together 69,395,818 souls.

\* Essai politique Tome IV. page 259.

† In the beginning one fifth, afterwards on mining becoming more difficult and more expensive, one tenth, but on Brazil gold, the original one sixth part is levied.

† Fischer asserts in his latest description of Brazil, that the Portuguese government is at least defrauded of a fourth part of the gold that is found, and that it scarcely receives the half of the diamonds which are discovered, and which wholly belong to the crown.

\* That this failure in the supplies of bullion, has already taken place, in a degree very sensibly felt by the trade and monied system of Europe, is proved by an article of the 15th June, 1819, in the Borsenhalle newspaper, which states, that instead of 24 millions of dollars, as formerly, from 1811 to 1818, only 8,111,115 dollars, have been annually imported into Europe from Mexico. Since the arrival of the court in Brazil, no bullion is allowed to be exported from thence.



by means of it is still less imaginable. The financial state of the British company, which has only been successful in preventing other European competition, has in the lapse of time been considerably impaired;\* and the fear is not groundless, which many entertain, that either an insurrection of the Indian nations, fed by the commercial jealousy of other powers, will one day overthrow this merchant kingdom, or that an independent throne, founded by Europeans in India, around which, under a mild government, the gentle and docile native people would willingly flock, will put an end to transatlantic supremacy and mercantile extortions. In trade, America has already very successfully entered the lists.† For whilst, in Spanish America, the intercourse with ancient India, has been limited and is monopolized by Akapulco, the United States are in the habit of sending annually a considerable number of vessels, to East India ports, from Salem,‡ Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Charleston &c. These bring nankins, teas, muslins, and silks for home consumption, and cotton in great quantities, principally for re-exportation for the supply of the European manufactories. This lucrative carrying trade, as well as its other branches to Europe, which the government most powerfully supports with its navy, will concentrate itself more and more in the hands of the Americans, whose cedar, Carolina oak, and firs, supply a timber for naval architecture, far superior to that of Europe, in goodness and durability, and who possess on their own soil, every other naval requisite, in the most abundant superfluity. This circumstance, on South America, also entering the lists, will be particularly felt, as it must annihilate a considerable mass of European industry, and the profits arising from it; not taking into consideration, that probably at no

very distant period, no European navy, will be able to cope with that of America, provided it be augmented in proportion to the resources and extent of territory in the new continent. In the Northern Union, laws have provided for this gradual increase; and in those states of South America, which are contending for their independence, necessity but more the rapaciousness of dissolute freebooters assembled together from every quarter of the globe, have created a small naval force, which either as defensive or offensive, will during the progress of the war, continually increase, and, on a solid organization of the different states, taking place, which are at present, but formless masses of fermenting matter, is likely to be regularly formed and augmented.

But if the principle be correct, of which England has given us so splendid an example, that, that state will take the lead in commerce, whose navigation is protected and supported by the largest and most expert navy.—Europe will not be able long to maintain her monopoly to her remaining colonies, against America in a perfect state of freedom, nor continue to wield her trident, when opposed to her rival, who is even dangerous at present, and has evidently every advantage on her side. The greatest distance, the danger of the European seas, particularly of the Cattegat and the English channel, and the expense of equipment and insurance, more considerable on this account, are so many disadvantages, with which Europe has to contend; whereas, the geographical situation of the European colonies, is eminently favourable to a navigation to and from American ports, and pronounces them, as long as a colonial system is upon the whole to exist, to be much rather natural dependencies of America.

We have already spoken of the West India islands, which will very soon no doubt, follow the impulse, imparted to them by America, in striving at independence, and have hinted at occurrences, which may possibly take place in the East Indies. If we further cast a look to Africa, where such an extensive field for the spirit of discovery and the speculation of trade, lies open; it is evident, that the position of the western side of this quarter of the globe, is more particularly adapted to an intercourse with the harbours and coasts of the eastern part of South America, than convenient for the trade hitherto carried on with Europe; it is evident, the coast of Guinea can be frequented with greater facilities, from Caracca, Cayenne and Surinam, and that of Congo, made much quicker from Brazil, than from any one European port, and that the Cape of Good Hope, lying directly to the east of the river Plata, is much better adapted for an intercourse with Rio Janeiro, Buenos Ayres, and Magellan, than for a Dutch or British colony. Again, how short is the distance from the Cape, to the Isles of France, Bourbon, and Madagascar, situated between the

latter and the eastern coast of Africa, and how much more favourably suited, are these possessions for a communication with the new states of South America, than with their present mother countries! And further, how much easier is the passage to the spice and Philippine islands and New Holland, being remnants of a former continent, scattered to the south of the coasts of China, and to the east of the Indian peninsula, from the eastern side of America round the Cape, or from her western harbours through the Pacific, than from Great Britain or the Netherlands; and in how much greater a degree, is this the case with the Marquesas, the Friendly and Society islands, in the South Sea, which face the fertile coasts of Lima, of St. Jago and Valparaiso! An impartial view of the map of the world is only necessary in fact, to convince any one, that as soon as the reins of America, are fallen from the hands of Europe, the intercourse of the latter with the above possessions, will decline in proportion, as the means unfold themselves, in the new continent, of supplying those productions, and manufacturing those goods, requisite for a commercial communication, and of forming those political and moral ties with them, without which, a trading intercourse has no worth! For even the sceptre of intellectual superiority will not be swayed for ever by Europe, should it even be hereditarily inherent in the European race, which however, would be difficult to prove; for it is this very race, and by no means its weaker part—which has at all times taken care to remain at home—that has founded and continues to people the regions of the new world, propagating itself not more degenerately most assuredly, than in ancient Europe, and gradually ennobling the different races of the other hemispheres, by a vigorous mixture. The American is inferior to no European nation, and superior to many, in spirit of enterprise, faculty of invention, and corporeal strength and stamina. The arts of war and government have brought forth a Washington, and the sublimer sciences, a Franklin; Miranda appeared as it were, a precursory example, of the political and warlike talents which South America was capable of giving birth to, and the present epocha there, is likely yet to develop much, of which posterity will have to judge. The instruction of every branch of useful knowledge, is attended to; the muses are not without their votaries, and the cities of South, rather than of North America, are embellished with monuments of the plastic arts, which may serve to inspire future genius; the missionaries of the Catholic church, engaged in imparting suavity, to the manners of the aboriginal tribes, enrich at the same time the field of science, particularly that of physics, and Humboldt makes mention of respectable names, in all the various paths of human intelligence. Much technical knowledge, considerable talents, and the most persevering energies, will

\* According to official accounts, the debt of the East India Company, in India, amounted, in the beginning of 1819, to 34,184,137 Lstg. at 6, 8 and 9 per cent. interest. Fullarton's celebrated work, a view of the English interests in India, gives such disclosures as to the administration of British India, as completely to justify the opinion we have laid down.

† On the 31st of December, 1818, the merchant vessels of the United States, measured, officially, 1,225,184 20-95 tons.

‡ Salem, containing 15,000 inhabitants, had about 50 ships round the Cape of Good Hope in 1817, and Boston in 1818, had a similar number; more than 50,000 bales of cotton, containing about 17 millions lbs. and valued at 2 millions of dollars, were exported in the latter year from East India ports in American bottoms, principally, it is true for European consumption; but what prospects open for the future, when this carrying trade, will be changed into one, dedicated to the supply of inland manufactories, and how close at hand, is perhaps this period!

constantly emigrate from Europe, and the freedom of opinion, as well as of every profession, will facilitate the development of each natural endowment. But, as soon as the intellectual faculties once unshackled, begin to exert themselves on the vast field of both the Americas, and are able to appropriate, the infinite treasures of nature and other resources they possess, to the purposes of dominion, or to the profits of commerce; no other quarter of the world, much less a single people, who have been rendered powerful for a series of time, by the nature of their free civil constitution, but more exalted by the relaxed state of other nations, will be able to dispute the supremacy of the ocean with the new world.

It appears, therefore, to be less likely, that Europe will be indemnified, for her probable loss of influence, and commercial relation with America, by the extension of her trade, and her transmarine colonial system; than, that in this respect, it may rather be apprehended, America will be continually doing her more and more injury. The question is, therefore, if Europe could not, by adopting another line of conduct, in extending her more immediate surrounding frontiers, and following a system more suitable to the new order of things, support the edifice of her wonted greatness, by novel and perhaps more secure foundations?

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

*The New American Atlas, No. III.* Constructed, &c. &c. by H. S. Tanner, and published by him, at Philadelphia, 1821.

There is nothing in which elegance combines more completely with utility than the execution of maps and charts. Accuracy in matters of latitude and longitude, the sources of rivers, &c. may be found in maps so coarsely drawn and vilely coloured as to convey to the mind no clear and precise image of the countries intended to be represented. But when fineness of execution and delicacy of shading is superadded to correctness, not only is a beautiful picture presented to the eye, but a distinct and durable representation is made to the understanding.

This praise eminently belongs to Mr. Tanner's new Atlas, the third No. of which, is recently published, containing four maps. 1st. Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island. 2d. Virginia, Maryland, and Delaware. 3d. Louisiana and Mississippi. 4th. Africa.

Mr. Tanner's is an enterprise of no little hazard; it is to be hoped that public taste and liberality will remun-

erate him for the trouble and expense of his very elegant publication. Two more numbers will complete the work, which will then be one of the most beautiful performances in the art of engraving that our country has produced.

#### *The German Correspondent.*

A monthly journal is issued under the above title, at New York, having for its object, to make us better acquainted with Germany, and German literature. The design is in the highest degree laudable; and the first number of the new series, published last month, is an earnest of future usefulness.

The purpose avowed in the prospectus, is to "present a view of the civil, literary, scientific, and religious state of Germany." The undertaking is very comprehensive; but if only a part is effected, the editors will deserve our thanks. We learn from the present number, that the "Lay of the Last Minstrel," and the "Lady of the Lake," have been translated into German verse, by Dr. Storck, a professor at Bremen. The 'German Correspondent' bestows high praise on the versions: we cannot pretend to judge of them. In many passages the translation is said to be far superior to the original poems.

The second article we find to be an indignant answer to the remarks of Mr. Hodgskin, an Englishman [a "radical," he is termed] that lately published a volume of travels through Germany. The traveller is compared and likened to Mr. Fearon.

Then follow "translations of German reviews of American publications." The following works are mentioned as having been thus noticed:—

1. "An examination into the expediency of establishing a Board of Agriculture in the state of New York. Published by the New York Corresponding association, for the promotion of internal improvements."

This has been kindly and favourably spoken of in the "Allgemeine Literatur Zeitung."

2. Dr. Ducachet's translation of Hippocrates, with notes, &c." highly praised in the *Medicinischchirurgische Zeitung*.

3. Niles's Weekly Register.

4. Riley's Narrative. The *Jena Literatur Zeitung* doubts the captain's veracity.

*The Hermit in Philadelphia:* 2d Series. Philadelphia, 1821.

To apply grave rules of criticism to a *bagatelle* like this, would be an exercise alike fatiguing to the reviewer and the reader. The book is intended to be amusing merely, and it will amuse many readers. As far as the actual manners of Philadelphia are portrayed, we cannot discover any particular resemblance of the picture to the reality; the satire is most likely not meant to be very pointed, the caricature is, at all events, quite too broad. As no copyright seems to have been secured, we will suppose ourselves at liberty to extract *ad libitum*—first therefore, of the theatre.

There is perhaps no city in the world, of equal extent, more deficient in public places of amusement than Philadelphia: their introduction has been greatly retarded by the tone of sentiment introduced with the primitive settlers, which has to the present time continued to produce a decreasing effect; but it will hardly be denied, that every successive aberration from the manners, customs, and morals of our forefathers, has been attended with a correspondent decline in the virtues and happiness of society.

In those happy days of primitive simplicity, every family, in itself, was a theatre of enjoyment; fictitious excitements were not wanting to increase the pleasures of society, because every individual relied upon his own resources, or the family circle to which he was attached: the domestic fire-side was, to them, a never failing source of pleasure, where the whole family assembled, with great regularity, in the evening, to knit stockings, enjoy religious conversation, and read a chapter in the Bible. If it became necessary to pay a neighbourly visit, every individual joined in the unusual exertion: the visitation commenced at 10 o'clock of the morning, and ended with the going down of the sun. At 9 o'clock the whole city was wrapt in profound slumbers.

*Tempora mutantur, et nos mutamur cum illis:* our present young gentlemen retire to rest about the time our forefathers were accustomed to rise; breakfasts have usurped the place of ancient dinners in the same ratio as the latter have taken the stations of ancient suppers. Broad-brim hats have got into disrepute, and buckram suits come to be very pleasant objects of ridicule; plain long-eared muslin caps, high neckerchiefs, and long drab petticoats, afford vast amusement to our present race of damsels, twenty of whom might very decently (*par comparaison*) be clothed with one single maidenly dress of the 'olden time.'

At that blessed epoch it was little less than profanity, even to offer an ear to the public gaze excepting through the doubt-

ful texture of leno-muslin, now, the main test of fashion is the greatest exhibition of the natural surface of the body, without any defending covering at all. Long sleeves, and sleeves of all descriptions are nearly extinct;—white satten has been substituted for linsey-woolsey, and sky-blue gauze for snuff-coloured bombazet. In fashionable life, neckerchiefs are by no means indispensable, and even the main article of female dress has suffered very material diminution.

However great may be these changes, nothing has deteriorated more than the manners of young people, as connected with courtship. In ancient times, when a youth imbibed a secret yearning towards a damsel, he arrayed himself in his Sunday suit, lengthened his features to a due degree of solemnity, put a bible into his pocket, and sallied forth to the mansion of his beloved; every thing then depended on a sonorous, well-modulated voice, and an orthodox twang of the nose; if he succeeded in preaching himself into the good graces of the young women, (there were no ladies in those days,) he took unto himself a wife; but if all his efforts proved unavailing, he betook himself home, and studiously endeavoured, by family practice, to make himself competent to renew the attack with more probability of success.——The course pursued by modern Dandy suitors is radically different; so far from being burdened with a pocket-bible, a bare allusion to such an article would prove decidedly fatal. He anoints himself with double distilled lavender water, puts on his most enchanting smile, claps his right hand to his heart, breathes a soft sigh and a preparatory hem! and begins a long course of disconnected, common-place, silly rhodomontade, which is continued until the lady is wise enough to laugh in his face, or foolish enough to offer him her hand. In the first instance, he whistles a cotillion, wishes her a very good morning, and d—ns her thenceforward on all improper occasions: If he marries, he becomes her slave during the honey-moon, and makes her miserable during the remainder of her life.

It would require a volume in itself to trace the long series of changes which have taken place since the foundation of our city, and at length originated, among other luxuries, the desire of fictitious pleasures, emanating from public spectacles and amusements. There are few institutions of this nature which do not, in a greater or less degree, affect the purity and morals of society. Our citizens, however, have not yet acquired that depravity of taste, which can endure those of the worst nature, and, limited as the number fortunately is, a great proportion of our exhibitions produce little or no evil effect.

At the present time two Dramatic Companies exist in Philadelphia;—the winter Tivoli theatre, and the theatre, Walnut-street. The former consists prin-

cipally of performers too inferior to be admitted on the boards of more regular theatres, or too well satisfied of their own abilities to be degraded in the capacity of mutes and scene-shifters, whilst they may figure as first-rates in Prune-street: this minor institution, although fitted up with peculiar taste and neatness, is in fact, adapted both in quality and price, to those classes, without whose support it would entirely fail in opposition to the Walnut-street theatre.

The splendid preparations made by the managers of the latter establishment, and the anticipated arrival of Mr. Kean will afford attractions to the lovers of the drama, during the ensuing season, little less inviting than those arising from the masterly delineations of George Frederick Cooke.

To the introduction of stage-players our worthy progenitors were particularly opposed, and many obstacles were encountered before they became perfectly naturalised amongst us: it is a question of much doubt whether the amusement or instruction derived from their introduction are sufficient to compensate for its attendant evils.

The 'Fair Penitent' and 'Miss in her Teens,' were the first theatrical performances attempted in Philadelphia, on the 15th day of April, 1754. A building, originally used as a store-house, was the place of exhibition, situate on the east side of Water, near Pine-streets. Another, better adapted to the purpose was soon after erected, by the same company, at the southwest corner of Cedar and Vernon streets. Great influence was used to prevent a continuance of theatrical exhibitions, and many petitions were presented to the legislature upon the subject. Friends (Quakers) were uniformly opposed to them: in 1754, the synod of Presbyterians united their influence with the popular prejudices, and petitioned the governor and legislature to prohibit all theatrical performances.\*

The sons of Thespis enjoyed a humorous and satirical revenge, by immediately announcing for exhibition the 'Tragedy of Douglass, by the Rev. Mr. Home, minister of the Kirk of Scotland.†

Mr. Hallam, (commonly called the father of the American stage,) in conjunction with Mr. Henry, erected the South-street theatre, some time before the revolutionary war; during the latter period, the whole theatrical corps sought refuge in the West Indies, but on the declaration of peace returned to this country. No exhibition, however, took place for a number of years, owing to prohibitory state-laws.

In 1791, the new theatre, Chesnut-

\* In the year 1818, visiting theatres, as well as public balls, gaming and horse racing, were forbidden by the convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church of Virginia.

† Picture of Philadelphia: *et seq.*

street, was founded, and, when the building was completed, a company from London under the direction of Mr. Wiguel, commenced their career in the winter of 1793-94. In 1805, it was considerably enlarged and improved, and in 1820, burnt to the ground.

The existing company, under the direction of Messrs. Warren and Wood, have consequently been compelled to engage the Olympic Theatre, Walnut-street, as the only building suitable to the purpose; it was built in 1809, by Messrs. Pepin and Breschard, and adapted solely to equestrian performances; in 1811, it was greatly improved by the addition of a theatre to the circus, after the model of Sadler's Wells, and the depth of the building increased from one hundred to one hundred and forty feet: its dimensions on Walnut-street (eighty feet) continue the same. The present alterations, by which it is fitted for dramatic representations alone, are said to be honourable to the taste and enterprise of the managers: the amphitheatre is converted into a spacious pit, the heavy dome has been removed, and the stage been considerably enlarged. As the losses incurred by the destructive fire in Chesnut-street, have not diminished the exertions of the managers, it is reasonable to anticipate an extensive display of fashionable patronage, during the ensuing season.

A curious evasion of the law prohibiting theatrical performances, was made use of in Boston, before its repeal in 1793, about which period the first theatre was opened in that city. The performers published bills of the following description; 'On Monday evening will be delivered at the exhibition room in Broad Alley, a Moral Lecture, enforced by the affecting history of Jane Shore, which will be alternately recited, by Messrs. Harper, Powell, &c. the evening's exercises to conclude with an Amusing Lecture in the facetious narrative of Chrononhotonthologos!'

The next quotation shall be from the chapter on "Foreign Follies."

There are three 'bang-up' amusements, which it is absolutely necessary to domesticate before we can conquer the *desourcement* of high life, or be at all worthy of European fashionable consideration. These are 1. Betting, 2. Cocking; and 3. Boxing.

Betting, with the exception of cards, is almost exclusively confined in this city to elections, probably because betting on the result of an election is prohibited by an express law. I am rejoiced, however, to be informed, by the following extract from the Sporting Magazine, that an occasional instance of spirited betting does occur in Philadelphia:

#### 'BOLD BETTING.'

'A person in Philadelphia, bet 500 dollars that he would go into the Mayor's house, give him a blow, and retire without molestation! Having told him his ob-



ject, he gave him a smart slap on the shoulder, and was committed to prison!\*

A few more examples of this nature would gain us some respectability in Europe,—for is it not shameful, that all the bets won and lost in the city of Philadelphia since the revolutionary war, do not equal the amount paid in one day at Tattersall's? 'It is supposed by the best judges on the turf, that 300,000 guineas (one million and an half of dollars!) were won and lost at Epsom, and paid at Tattersall's on the following Monday!'—Is it not afflicting that all the stakes deposited in all sections of the United States during one year, does not, perhaps, amount to one half the sums betted in the city of London alone, during the same period, which (according to Mr. Colquhoun) have amounted to 31,111,111 dollars and 11 cents, besides 13,933,333 dollars 33 cents, for fraudulent insurances on lotteries?

Let us then imitate these brilliant specimens of 'bon ton,' and instead of our Renshaws and Rubicams, our Strattons and Sixtes, forthwith establish models of the far-famed Brookes and Boodles, and Tattersalls and Whites of London!

It is a fact which no sophistry can invalidate, that until we are enterprising and spirited enough to hazard bets on the most *outré* and novel experiments, we can never cope with our English rivals: even in the common art of pedestrianism we are but ignorant tyros. Let a few examples bear witness to the fact.

The celebrated pedestrian, Mr. Barnett walked 1500 miles in 32 days; and not satisfied with this feat, actually completed the distance of 1000 miles at the rate of 1 1-2 miles per hour, commencing at the first of every successive hour!

A Mr. Eaton gained £500, by walking 2000 miles in 2000 half-hours, beginning at the first of every successive half-hour!

Mr. Edward Miller walked 100 miles in 23 hours 54 minutes!—and a Mr. Wilson walked the same distance in 24 hours, with ease, at Yarmouth races, for 500 dollars!

A 'champion pedestrian' has offered to stake £2000, that he would walk 4000 miles in 2000 successive hours!—(This feat would require 83 days, and 8 hours for its performance!)

Crisp, the pedestrian, walked backwards seven miles in one hour and ten minutes!

On the 24th April, a boy ran nearly 60 miles by the side of a stage-coach, in 6 hours 25 minutes, having performed 11 miles in the first hour!

But some of our scrupulous exquisites may object—in principle!—to following examples emanating from the *canaille*; to dissipate these honourable scruples (which however, need not prevent betting on the results,) let us select one or two from among British military pedestrians.

Captain Barclay performed 1000 miles in 1000 successive hours, at one mile the hour, and gained such universal fame

\* Sporting Magazine.

that he is immortalised by the nomenclature of that particular feat, thenceforth called the great Barclay match!\*

Lieutenant Brooke of the royal regiment of horse guards, a famous pedestrian, walked 50 miles in 9 hours 58 minutes, and proceeding 50 miles further, performed the 100 miles in 24 hours and 18 minutes!

The delicacy of our aspirants may therefore, be conscientiously dispensed with.

It cannot be denied, as in the subjoined instance, that fatal accidents will occasionally happen, but such individual misfortunes cannot be put in competition with the general gratification of society: 'Mr. Graves, aged 21, landlord of the Lamp Tavern, undertook for a wager of £20, to walk eighteen miles in three hours; on his return he was unable to proceed when within 3 miles of completing his task, and within 35 minutes of the time allowed. He was immediately conveyed to a tavern, and medical aid was obtained, but to no effect; he died the next morning!'

As to betting performances in general, a great deal depends upon their variety, without which, they cannot be considered 'exactly the thing;' a few brief examples will serve as a guide to the uninformed on this side of the Atlantic.

Mr. Pheps Medley, a respectable tradesman, bet £20 to £5, that he would drag half a hundred weight of iron 1400 yards up a hill with a rope of that length, in the space of six hours, which he performed in two hours! 'A good deal of money was lost on this occasion.' This was a very novel idea of the 'respectable tradesman,' and betrays a mind well versed in betting ingenuity.

The ostler of the Dragon Inn, at Harrogate, also elucidated talents of this nature, not expected from a man in his situation: he undertook for a wager of one guinea, (moderate enough!) to drag a heavy phaeton three times round the race course in six hours, and performed his arduous undertaking in 2½ hours!

Lord Gwydir had a French cook gifted with like accomplishments. He won a considerable wager by rolling a piece of wood, like a trencher, four miles in ninety nine starts!

Two countrymen in England, also invented a betting novelty. They placed 100 potatoes separately in a row at one yard distance from each other, and stationed a basket at one yard from the first potato; whichever could gather up his 100 potatoes first, by depositing each one separately in the basket, to be entitled to the stakes, being five guineas. The conqueror completed his task in 38 minutes, having gone nearly six miles! To how much better purpose might our farmers

\* This immortal pedestrian has elicited new scintillations of betting genius; he undertook for a large wager to beg during six weeks as a common mendicant!

employ their time in thus gathering a few hundred potatoes, than in planting, weeding, and hoeing whole acres!

Mr. Usher, clown to the theatre, set off in a machine like a washing tub, drawn by four geese, from below Southwark Bridge, and passed under four bridges to Cumberland Gardens; the geese were harnessed to a pole. On his arrival, he offered to bet 100 guineas that he would return in the same manner.

Two noblemen, oppressed with the *ennui* of travelling, at length resorted to a novel amusement, by betting £1000 on two drops of rain rolling down the glass of the coach! One of these Peers, a few days before, lost £2000, on a maggot race.

A respectable gentleman of Cambridge undertook, for a considerable sum, to walk twelve miles on stilts, his feet being elevated one yard from the ground, which he performed in 3 hours and 53 minutes!

I will conclude these specimens of variegated betting with the feats of certain gentlemen of the medical faculty.

Two medical gentlemen undertook to walk a certain distance in three hours, stopping at every public house on both sides of the road, (22 in number!) and drinking half a pint of porter at each, which they performed within five minutes of the time allowed, having swallowed ten quarts and two pints of beer!

Mr. J. B. Gilbert, surgeon in his majesty's service, for a wager of 31 guineas, undertook to take out 18 teeth, more or less carious, from patients selected for that purpose, without the aid of any instrument or force, with his fingers only, and unattended by pain, in 24 minutes! He completed his task in seven minutes!

This is acknowledged by all to be one of the most novel and ingenious bets ever officially recorded; but, when I consider the professional skill in itself, I am almost willing to believe the newspaper-professions of our own dentists and surgeon dentists, &c.

## ANALECTA.

(From the New Monthly Magazine.)

### MEMOIRS OF GRANVILLE SHARP.

In the present state of literature, when a mania for the splendid and the marvellous pervades the public mind, which has been long excited by the revolutions of empires and the fate of kings; when the deeds of the warrior, the songs of the bard, and the speeches of the orator, are held forth to our admiring view;—amidst this galaxy of dazzling events, illustrious personages, and overpowering talents, it is highly meritorious and useful to direct attention to excellence of a higher order, though of less ostentatious character, an excellence beyond that of eloquence, valour, or even genius,—to PHILANTHROPY; and this merit eni-

nently belongs to the editor of the life of Granville Sharp.

Mr. Sharp was descended from a family anciently settled in Yorkshire, and his immediate predecessors were eminently distinguished by the high moral qualities, of which he preserved the lustre by his example. His grandfather was archbishop of York; and his father, Dr. Thomas Sharp, was archdeacon of Northumberland, a divine, distinguished for uprightness, piety, and a conscientious discharge of his duties.

Granville was born at Durham, in 1735; being destined for trade, he was at an early age withdrawn from the public grammar school at Durham, before he had acquired more than the first rudiments of the learned languages.

In the year 1750, he was bound apprentice in London to a linen draper of the name of Halsey, a Quaker, on Tower-hill, who dying in 1750, he remained under the same indentures with Halsey's father-in-law, Henry Willoughby, Esq. a justice of the peace, and a presbyterian, and from thence entered the house of Bourke and Co. Roman Catholic Irish factors in Cheapside. At the expiration of his apprenticeship, he quitted his situation, and engaged himself in the service of another linen factory, which he had reason to suppose was established on a large basis, but, finding it more contracted than he had imagined, he soon relinquished his engagement.

In this early stage of his life was laid the foundation of that equal temper and candour which enabled him to enter into argument with those who differed from him in religious opinions. Though the son of a dignified clergyman of the church of England, he had served a Quaker, a Presbyterian, or Independent, an Irish Papist, and another person who had no religion at all.

It was at this period he made his first advances in learning: a series of controversies in his master's house with an inmate there, who was a Socinian, excited him to the study of the Greek tongue. The Socinian declared that Granville's misconception of the doctrine of atonement arose from his ignorance of the Greek language, and referred him to the New Testament in the original text. He acquired Hebrew at the same time from a similar cause: a Jew, who resided in the house, contested with him the truths

of the Christian religion, and attributed his misinterpretations to his not being able to read the Prophecies in the original, referring him to the Bible, as the Socinian did to the Testament.

The motives which induced him to abandon the track of business in which he had been twice engaged are now unknown: the death of his father, however, left his choice unbiassed, and in 1758, he obtained a subordinate appointment in the ordnance office.

In 1764 he was appointed a clerk in ordinary, and removed to the minuting bench. Soon after this establishment, he engaged in a controversy with the learned Dr. Kennicott, editor of the Hebrew Bible, which involved a contest for superior proficiency in Hebrew literature. The boldness of the attempt cannot be regarded without surprise. His uncle, the Rev. Granville Wheler, aptly compared him to David attacking and wounding Goliath. The singularity of the subject, the confidence with which his enterprise was maintained, and the success with which it was attended, form a remarkable instance in literary annals.—About this time chance directed his attention towards the sufferings of a race of men who had long been the victims of European avarice. He had at first no other view than the relief of a miserable fellow-creature, struggling with disease and extreme misery; but such, under Heaven, was then the increasing spirit of humanity, that England was destined shortly to behold a private and powerless individual standing forth at the divine instigation of Mercy, to rescue the negroes from the cruel oppression of chains and slavery: to see one single man opposed by prejudice and interest, arming himself by the study of our laws to assert the rights of justice, resisting the formidable decisions of those who filled the highest courts of judicature, maintaining his cause with unanswerable reasons, and finally overthrowing the influence of unjust opinions, merely founded in authority: an event not more glorious to the individual himself than to our constitution, of which he demonstrated the mild and liberal spirit, friendly to every consideration that could be suggested for the benefit of mankind.

The first opportunity of trying a case so important to humanity was afforded in 1765, by an African named Jonathan Strong. Mr. W. Sharp, the surgeon, afforded gratuitous relief eve-

ry morning to the poor at his own house, whither pain and disease, the consequence of severe blows and hard usage, led the miserable sufferer to seek medical aid; and in one of Granville's visits to the surgery in Mincing-lane, he met Jonathan Strong, ready to faint, through extreme weakness, as he approached the door. On inquiry it was found that this negro had been the slave of Mr. David Lisle, a lawyer, of Barbadoes, whose barbarous treatment had, by degrees, reduced him to a state of uselessness, and who had then brutally turned him out of doors.

By the attention of the brothers, into whose care Strong had providentially fallen, he was restored to health, and placed in the service of a respectable apothecary, Mr. Brown. In that comfortable situation he had remained two years, when, as he was attending his mistress behind a hackney-coach, he was seen and recognised by the lawyer to whom he had been a slave, and who conceiving, by his appearance and active employment, that he must have regained his strength for labour, traced his abode, and having discovered it, laid a plan to entrap him.

Some days after, Lisle employed two of the Lord Mayor's officers to attend him to a public house, and thence sent a messenger to Strong to acquaint him that some person wished to speak to him. Jonathan came, and was shocked to find it was his old master, who now delivered him to the custody of the officers. The poor negro sent to his master, Mr. Brown, who also came, but was so intimidated by the lawyer on a charge of having detained *his property*, as he called Strong, that he left him in custody.

Granville Sharp received a letter from the Poultry Compter, signed Jonathan Strong, a name he did not recollect at first, but he sent to inquire at the prison, and the keepers denied having had any such person in their charge. This refusal roused his suspicion, and awakened his native benevolence. He went himself to the Compter, and insisted on seeing Strong. He was then called, and immediately recollected; and Mr. Sharp charged the master of the prison, at his peril, not to deliver him up to any person who might claim him, till he had been carried before the Lord Mayor, to whom Mr. Sharp instantly applied, giving the information that a man had been confined in prison



without a warrant, and requesting his lordship to summon those persons who detained him, and give notice to himself to attend at the same time, which was granted. At the appointed time, Mr. Sharp attended, and found Jonathan in the presence of the Lord Mayor, and also two persons who claimed him: the one a notary public, who produced a bill of sale from his first master, David Lisle, to James Kerr, esq. a Jamaica planter, who had refused to pay the purchase-money till the negro should be delivered on board a ship belonging to Muir & Atkinson, bound to Jamaica; the captain of the vessel, David Lair, was the other person, then attending to take him away. The Lord Mayor, after hearing the parties, said, the lad had not stolen any thing, and was not guilty of any offence, therefore at liberty to go away.

Upon this the captain seized the negro, and told his lordship he took him as the *property* of Mr. Kerr.

The city coroner now came behind Mr. Sharp, and whispered in his ear, "Charge him." Mr. Sharp immediately turned on the captain, and in an angry tone said, "Sir, I charge you with an assault." On this Lair quitted his hold of Jonathan's arm, and all bowed to the Lord Mayor and departed; Jonathan following Mr. Sharp, and no one daring to touch him.

A few days after this, Mr. Sharp was served with a writ at the suit of David Lisle, for detention of his property. Lisle also called on him to demand *gentlemanly satisfaction*; but Mr. Sharp told him, "as he had studied the law so many years, he should want no satisfaction which the law could give him." Mr. Sharp kept his word, but in a way little expected from a person who, as he himself states, had never once opened a law-book to consult it till on the present occasion. His solicitor brought him an opinion given in 1729, by the attorney and solicitor-general, York and Talbot, asserting, that a slave coming from the West Indies to Great Britain or Ireland, *does not become free*; and assured him that he should not be able to defend him against the action, as Lord Mansfield also was decidedly of their judgment.

It would be impossible to detail, within the limits of this memoir, all the obstacles with which this amiable philanthropist had to contend, obstacles which would have produced despair in any mind less firm by or-

ganization, less improved by principle, or less supported by the consciousness of a right cause. "Thus forsaken, (he writes in a letter to Lord Hardwicke) by my professional defenders, I was compelled to make a hopeless attempt at self-defence, though unacquainted with the law and the foundations of it."

Accordingly he devoted his whole time for two years to the study of those points which regard the *liberty of person* in British subjects, as adjusted by British laws. In this difficult task he had no instructor, no assistant—he consulted several professional men of eminence, but they were all unfavourable to the cause of justice and liberty. "Even my own lawyers, (he says) were against me; so much power had precedent, and the authority of names, to bias the most famous counsellors of that time." His penetration was evinced by the result; decided and unremitting, he stated in manuscript such arguments as he deemed most cogent in favour of negroes' rights, combating every objection with renewed vigour, as the cause advanced.

Lisle, finding the character of the champion he had to encounter, contrived various pretexts for defending the suit, and at length offered a compromise, which Mr. Sharp rejected. Before the final term, when he was to answer the charge against his brother and himself, he had compiled in manuscript a tract, "*On the Injustice and dangerous Tendency of tolerating Slavery, or admitting the least Claim to private Property in the Persons of Men in England.*" He submitted it to the perusal of Dr. Blackstone, and then employed his utmost efforts to circulate it: the arguments it contained were irresistible, and by its success he had the satisfaction of amply fulfilling his promise to his antagonist. The lawyers employed against the negroes were intimidated, and the plaintiff was compelled to pay treble costs for not bringing forward the action. This tract, "*On the Injustice of tolerating Slavery in England,*" (which was then sent to the press, in 1769,) was a plain, manly, clear defence of the part he had espoused: in it he combated the conclusions drawn from the opinions of York and Talbot, with complete success. He argued, that a negro is neither of a *base nature*, nor a *thing*, as he had been termed by the slaveholders, but that he possesses from

nature the privilege of *his humanity*, and that he does not fall within any of the cases in which the English law devests a man of that privilege. He then stated that *every man* in England is a bounden subject of the king, and thereby entitled to his protection; and finally demonstrated the wisdom of our laws in the use of terms, in which *all subjects*, of whatever rank or condition, actual or prospective, are alike included. He also re-edited a publication written in America in 1762, containing an Account of the Slave Coast of Africa, and of the Slave Trade, to which he added "a Conclusion," calculated to increase the public interest in the cause he had undertaken; and on printing his tract, "*On the Injustice of Slavery,*" he addressed himself to the Archbishop of Canterbury, in a letter which, while it evinced his strong religious feeling, broke the first ground in England on the subject of this iniquitous traffic. During the progress of these transactions, several circumstances had conspired to stimulate his Christian efforts: from the zeal and ability which he had manifested in his controversy with Dr. Kennicott, and the resolution with which he had devoted the powers of his understanding to the interests of the oppressed, it was natural to imagine that a mind so virtuously directed, as it would dispose, would eminently qualify its possessor for holy orders.

Towards the end of the year 1769, he was warmly pressed by his uncle, the Rev. Granville Wheler, to enter the ministry, who offered to resign his living in Northamptonshire in his favour; but Mr. Sharp refused it with humility, respecting both his virtues and his qualifications. In his answer, he says: "Even if I could flatter myself that I am capable of serving the cause of religion, yet I should apprehend that I might more effectually do this as a layman, especially in religious controversies, wherein a volunteer has many advantages with the public, both with regard to the estimation of his motives and the expectations formed of him."

The powerful weight of his arguments, printed in the Tract on Slavery, was again felt in our courts of law: he had the gratification to witness their influence on a trial in defence of another negro, whom he had released by writ of habeas corpus, from on board a ship then under sail in the Downs.

An African, of the name of Thomas Lewis, had formerly been a slave in the possession of Mr. Stapleton, who now resided at Chelsea; with the aid of two watermen, whom Stapleton had hired for the purpose, in a dark night, he seized the person of Lewis, and, after a struggle, dragged him on his back into the water, and thence into a boat lying in the Thames, where, having tied his legs, they endeavoured to gag him by thrusting a stick into his mouth, and then, rowing down to a ship bound for Jamaica, whose commander was previously engaged in this vile conspiracy, they put him on board, to be sold as a slave, on his arrival in the island.

This treacherous act had not escaped notice at the house adjoining that of Mrs. Banks (mother to the traveller) with whom Lewis lived as a servant at the time of his seizure: his cries on the way to the boat reached the ears of some of the domestics, who immediately ran out to attempt his rescue, but they did not venture to apprehend him, because the ruffians pretended to have a warrant from the Lord Mayor for his apprehension. They hastened back, however, to acquaint their mistress; and Mr. Sharp, now distinguished as the protector of the Africans, was addressed, for instructions how to emancipate one of their injured race. He accompanied her to justice Walch, procured a warrant, backed by the mayor of Gravesend, but the ship being cleared, the captain refused to obey the warrant—they could not stop her, and she sailed into the Downs; being fortunately detained there by contrary winds, a habeas corpus was obtained and served, and the captain delivered up the slave.

Mr. Sharp then procured a warrant to take up Stapleton and the two accomplices; an indictment was found against them at the Middlesex sessions, and removed into the King's Bench.

The cause was brought into court before Lord Mansfield, 20th February, 1771. When it came on, the two watermen employed to seize Lewis, did not appear; but only Stapleton, the master, who defended himself on the plea of the negro belonging to him as a slave. Mr. Dunning was one of the counsel employed on behalf of Lewis; he held up Mr. Sharp's tract in his hand, declaring that he was prepared to maintain that *no such property can exist in this country.*

Lord Mansfield, in summing up to the jury, left it to them to decide whether he was the defendant's property or not. The jury found that the negro was not the defendant's property; at the same time a general voice arose of "no property." Then, said Lord Mansfield, you find him guilty: a unanimous voice from the jury again pronounced—*guilty.*

Lord Mansfield remarked, that he perceived more in the question than they did at present; perhaps it was better it should never be finally settled, and *he hoped* it would not, as he did not know what might be the consequence if the masters were to lose their property by accidentally bringing their slaves into England. He wished all masters to think them free, and all negroes to think they were not, because then both would behave better—a remarkable instance of prejudice and timidity! Judgment was moved for against Stapleton and his accomplices; but Lord Mansfield, intimating great doubts on the evidence, was unwilling to proceed: he even expressed surprise that Stapleton should be brought up for judgment, and advised Mrs. Banks not to bring him up, as she had got the black in her possession—the recognizances were accordingly ordered to be respited.

Against this proceeding of the judge, Granville drew up a strong protest, as against an open contempt of the laws of England, disclaiming the refusal of judgment. This protest, he said, he meant to reserve for himself till there should be an absolute necessity for disclosing it; adding, with the mild spirit which ever actuated him, my indignation is against the practice and opinions, not the men who have promoted them, for I wish the amendment, rather than the punishment or shame, of those who do wrong. From the trials of the several negro cases, and from the turn given by the judge, it was evident, that though a few separate verdicts had been obtained in favour of African slaves, their right to freedom in England was still a question of fluctuating opinion: no security was afforded from the pertinacious avarice and cruel tyranny of the slave holders and slave dealers. By the indefatigable exertions of Mr. Sharp several sufferers were added to the list of the rescued; but the successful termination, the essential point, still remained undecided. The cause had not yet been tried which was to end the long agitated question; when

at length the case of James Somerset presented itself; a case said to be selected by the choice of Lord Mansfield and Mr. Sharp, to bring a final judgment on the subject of contest. The complaint of Somerset was similar to that of Lewis, before related.

This case was opened by Mr. Serjeant Davy, 7th Feb. 1772, when Somerset was brought up on the habeas corpus. Mr. Serjeant Glynn followed on the same side, and enforced very powerfully the arguments against the importation of laws of other countries into our own. The hearing was then adjourned.

Mr. Sharp's exertions in the cause of humanity inspired a desire of participation in his labours in the breast of Doctor Fothergill, a quaker, well known. They had entered into a religious controversy before (which appears in the Memoirs,) and had differed essentially on topics of religion, and each had maintained their opinions with deliberate frankness; yet such was the equal candour of minds alike devoted to the practice of real Christianity, that their variance had no influence in restraining the most cordial co-operation in acts of mercy. Dr. Fothergill's letter does him too much credit to be omitted.

"Respected Friend,  
"I have perused the arguments on Somerset's affair, with satisfaction, and wish the event may be favourable to public liberty. As many and great expenses must have attended this controversy, I shall be very ready to contribute my mite towards them; and when it is ended, go which way it may, I shall be pleased with an opportunity of doing every thing in my power to lessen the difficulties of the burden by dividing it."

On the second hearing, the case was resumed by Mr. Mansfield, who, in a speech of energetic sense and distinguished eloquence, contended that if the negro, Somerset, was a man, he could not be a slave in England, unless by the introduction of some species of property unknown to our constitution. "From all that can be drawn from the state of Africa or America, the negro, said the orator, may very well answer, It is true, I was a slave—kept as a slave in Africa; I was put in chains in a British ship, and carried to America; I there lived under a master whose tyranny I could not escape; had I attempted it I should have been exposed to the severest punishment; and never have I been ip

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a country where I had power to assert the common rights of mankind: I am now in one where the laws of liberty are known and regarded, can you tell me the reason why I am not to be protected by those laws, and to be carried away again to be sold? To hear a negro state this argument, and have it overthrown consistently with our laws, seems to me impossible." The cause was farther adjourned to the 14th of May; when Mr. Hargrave was heard, who very ably closed the arguments for the negro's discharge." Mr. Wallace and Mr. Dunning appeared on the side of Stewart, the master. The choice of this latter gentleman appeared singular to those who remembered the energy with which, on a former cause, he had professed himself ready to maintain, in any court of England, "*that no property could exist in a slave.*" Mr. Sharp's opinion on this conduct will probably have little weight with lawyers; but it should not be withheld from the public. After noticing the passage in the trial of Stapleton, in which Dunning had made this remarkable assertion, he says, "And yet, after so solemn a declaration, he appeared on the side of the slave holder the very next year. This is an abominable practice of lawyers, to undertake causes opposite to their own avowed opinions of law and common justice!" Dr. Johnson, however, has defended this practice with much plausibility.

The expectation of all parties was now raised to the utmost pitch, and on the 22d of June, 1772, Lord Mansfield pronounced that "tracing the subject to natural principles, the claim of slavery never can be supported. The power claimed never was in use here, or acknowledged by the law. Upon the whole, we cannot say the cause returned\* is sufficient by the law, and therefore the man must be discharged. The judgment thus pronounced by his lordship has established the axiom, as declared by Mr. Serjeant Davy, that *as soon as any slave sets foot on English ground, he becomes free.*

Thus ended the memorable cause of Somerset; and had it not been for the perseverance of Mr. Sharp, our law (says the editor, as far as it could be influenced by the opinion of one of

the best writers on it, Blackstone) would have left in doubt whether our constitution did or did not secure the liberty of all her subjects.

The respectable body of Quakers, in North America, had for many years attempted to alleviate the condition of slaves in their provinces; and when the verdicts obtained in favour of negroes in England reached them, they sought to co-operate with Sharp in his laborious efforts. On the memorable day which terminated the cause, he received the first offer of a correspondence instituted for the sole purpose of forwarding the emancipation of other slaves, but tending, in its progress, to enroll the name of Granville Sharp in the political strife between Great Britain and her colonies. This correspondent was Anthony Benezet, a Quaker in North America, who had established a free school for the education of blacks, had written treatises in their favour, and embraced every opportunity of pleading in their behalf.\*

In this letter, the worthy quaker informs him, "that the serious dissenters, and particularly the presbyterians, wished to see an end of the slave-trade, and many to slavery itself.—That the people of New England had enacted a law nearly amounting to its prohibition, proposing that all negroes born in the country, should be free at a certain age; that ten thousand persons in Maryland and Virginia would join in petition to parliament against any farther importation, and he earnestly intreats him by the mercies of God, that an application may be made to the king and parliament; by those mercies to which each of us, ere long, and we know not how soon, might recur, when we shall remember with the greatest joy or grief, that mercy is promised to the merciful.

In Mr. Sharp's reply he tells him, "that the British parliament, he apprehended, had no right to interfere with the toleration of slavery in the colonies, and that our brethren there could not be too much upon their guard in this point respecting the dig-

nity and independence of their own assemblies; the petition, therefore, should be addressed only to the king, or the king in council."

This doctrine was not new to the Americans: it was precisely the same in fact which they had for two years openly maintained during the contests occasioned by our ministry to impose internal taxes on the colonies. But it had hitherto been acted on only as far as it regarded the imposition of duties for raising a revenue. In this instance, in which Granville Sharp brought it to their view, though it stood on the same basis, it appeared in a new and more enlarged light. The strength and clearness with which his opinion was expressed, was highly agreeable to the temper of the colonists, and they accepted with eagerness arguments which extended the scope of those principles they so sturdily maintained. Copies of his letters were rapidly circulated, and the method he proposed adopted as the true constitutional rule of proceeding in all circumstances of the slave trade.

To a man disposed by nature to contemplate boldly the most abstruse sources of truth, and eminently endowed with faculties for this purpose, sufficient opening had been given to lead him forward in the track of human liberty with the same ardour with which he had sought in English statute books for the defence of individual freedom, he now turned to investigate the natural and political rights of nations in general; the immediate motive was still the love of the English character. The duty of an Englishman, say his notes, to maintain the just limits of law, according to the constitution, compelled me in the year 1774 to publish a Declaration of the people's right to a share in the legislature, which is the fundamental principle of the British constitution. Of this Declaration he writes in another memorandum, July 27, 1774, that he had given to Dr. Franklin 250 copies, which were sent to America the same day, and were reprinted in many provinces within the year.

During the whole course of these transactions, Mr. Sharp had continued in the humble employment of a clerk in ordinary in the ordinance office, where the duties of his department appear to have been punctually performed, as on the death of the second clerk he succeeded to the place, and acted as assistant to the secretary, Mr. Boddington. On his promo-

\* The return to the writ of habeas corpus, stating that Somerset was kept by order of his master, with intent to send him to Jamaica, there to be sold.

\* He was descended from a French family possessed of considerable fortune in France, which they left on account of their religion, forfeiting their inheritance, and gaining their subsistence by industry. Anthony Benezet, at his death, left his whole fortune to the school to which he had devoted his time and talents. He was universally respected, not only by his own sect, but by all who knew him.



tion he received an additional allowance.

In conformity to his sentiments, he now exhibited a fresh instance of his integrity. When hostilities commenced with America, he resigned his place.

His resignation, in a worldly sense, was an excess of imprudence: he had expended the remains of his paternal inheritance, and the fruits of his employment, in acts of bounty; and the protector of the helpless now stood himself in need of sustenance.

But the cordial attachment of his brothers, all now prosperous, was actively evinced: in a family overflowing with mutual kindness, the accession to their household of such a relation would ever have been accounted a treasure; they now revered that obedience to conscience which had deprived him of competency, and strove to compensate his loss by every act of esteem and beneficence. Their letters are examples of disinterested tenderness, and the acceptance of their favour was considered an obligation.

It is honourable to human nature to know that he continued to share the table and the purse of these excellent brothers for several years, until an accidental acquaintance with General Oglethorpe restored him to independence.

Being now without any civil employment, he devoted himself more fully to the pursuits of literary study, which are detailed by his editor. He had now attained his forty-first year: his public actions had been too important to leave him long in retirement: his writings, as they were never unconnected with existing circumstances, were all calculated to draw him into public view; they had been the means of introducing him to Dr. Franklin and other persons of eminent repute; and he now owed to them an acquaintance with General Oglethorpe, whose esteem for his religious and political opinions led to important consequences to his fortune.

Mr. Sharp soon afterwards appeared, both in court and as an author, as the advocate of the impressed seamen, whose case he also defended against the sophistry of the great dogmatist Samuel Johnson. The latter maintained, that the liability to impressment was a condition necessarily attending that way of life, and when they entered into it, they must take

all the circumstances; and knowing this, it must be considered as voluntary service, like that of an inn-keeper who knows himself liable to have soldiers quartered upon him. That the cause was strenuously contested between two such antagonists, there can be little doubt: but the strength of Granville's talents did not lie in debate, and he felt severely the powers of Dr. Johnson. On this subject, he says, "I have been told that it is the common lot of the poor and laborious part of mankind to endure hardships and inconveniences; and that the pressing and forcing them into service is no injustice nor illegality, being nothing more than one necessary contingent circumstance of the low condition in life in which they were bred; and that the *cruelty* rather rests with persons who, like me, take notice of their grievances, and render them unhappy by persuading them they are so: all this has been urged with such plausible sophistry and important self-sufficiency of the speaker, as if he supposed the mere sound of words was capable of altering the nature of things. I am far from being ready at giving an immediate answer to subtle arguments so that I may seem easily baffled when I am by no means convinced they have weight: if Dr. Johnson's doctrine were true, that men choosing a sea-faring life, forfeit thereby their natural rights as Englishmen, and lose the protection of the law, some immediate remedy ought to be applied to remove so unjust a *premunire* from an honest and necessary calling; for whatever takes away the protection of the law and common rights from any man, or set of men, is, to all intents and purposes, a *premunire*, which, if we except the judgment of death, is the severest punishment that is known in the English laws; and therefore it is unjust and iniquitous, as well as impolitic in the highest degree, that the honest mariner's condition should be loaded with so hateful a contingency, and the most effectual discouragement to an increase of British seamen that could possibly be devised.

'But we see,' says an advocate for power, 'that it *does not* discourage. Men are still bred up to a sea-faring life; and in times of peace, multitudes are allured by the merchants' service to choose that condition whereby they are subjected to impress.' True it is, that the necessities of poor labouring men compel them to earn their bread in any way that they can get it; and

when a war is over, the discouragement of pressing is in a great measure forgot, and the number of seamen of course again increased.

'But this makes no difference respecting the illegality and injustice of the oppression itself; for if the poor man is not protected in an honest calling, which is his estate and most valuable dependence, as well as the rich man, the law, or rather the administrators of it, are unjust and partial, having respect to persons, which the law abhors, and which religion strictly forbids; and therefore, if we can form any precise definition of iniquity, this partiality of which I complain, comes within the meaning of that term.'

Nothing could better illustrate the superiority of sound judgment over specious reasoning, than this unadorned specimen of Granville Sharp's unsophisticated mind advocating the cause of humanity.

Another event, which distinguishes the life of this benevolent man, followed closely on the establishment of American episcopacy (of which he was the chief promoter.) This event was the founding of a free colony at Sierra Leone.

In the year 1786 he was endeavouring to remedy an inconvenience which had sprung out of his own humane exertions in behalf of African slaves. Many slaves had been brought over by their masters in the metropolis, when the case of Somerset was decided; and having now no person to support them, no parish to call their own, and unaccustomed to any handicraft or calling, they fell by degrees, into great distress, so that they were conspicuous through the streets as mere beggars. To Mr. Sharp they flocked as their common patron: he had considered them as orphans who had a claim to his protection, and relieved them; but their number being about four hundred, it was not in his power to supply their daily wants consistently with his duties to other descriptions of the poor. He had many private pensioners, to whom he paid annual sums to a considerable amount, and the entire maintenance of these destitute Africans was utterly beyond his resources. In this dilemma he formed a scheme for their permanent support, and fixed upon some spot in Africa—the general land of their ancestors—where, if they could be conducted under a proper leader, supplied with implements of husbandry, and provi-

sions for a time, they might, with a moderate share of industry, maintain themselves.

The settlers chiefly consisted of these blacks, and men of colour, who had served in the late war, and now were starving about the streets of London, and must have perished there, had it not been for a subscription of charitable persons.

To form and direct a colony, composed of men of ardent passions, and whose only lessons had been stripes and barbarous usage, and whom suffering naturally induced to start with dread from their fellow-creatures, required a mind and character fraught with all the resources which political knowledge and inflexible resolution could supply. But the scope of human action contained no enterprise of danger and difficulty, sanctioned by Christian principles, which Granville Sharp could be deterred from undertaking.

Mr. Smeathman, an ingenious and honourable man, who had resided some years at the fort of Sierra Leone, made a proposal to form a settlement there. The poor blacks resorted in a body to Mr. Sharp, and many of them had been at the place; they assured him there was much fine woodland unoccupied in that part of the coast; which account was confirmed by several channels, and particularly by a young negro, whom Mr. Sharp had saved from slavery just at that time.

From his diary it appears, the idea of an African colony had long been in his contemplation before the attempt was made to realize the plan; a plan, as will be seen hereafter, constituted for a race of men uniformly open to the persuasions of reason; the impracticability of collecting a numerous society of such, is daily demonstrated: numerous human beings, perhaps endowed with the capability of reason, are precluded, either by education or circumstances, from its advantages. The benevolent plan, which left out sufficient authority to strengthen laws, is to be found in Mr. Sharp's papers: it was the foundation of all the rules by which the colony was governed at its commencement.

Mr. Smeathman was to conduct them to their destined places; and Granville distributed to the settlers a weekly sum from his own purse, which was continued till the time of settling; and an allowance of 12d. each person was made from the trea-

sury for any persons that were willing to go, and navy transports hired to carry them out.

At this important moment Mr. Smeathman's impaired health suspended the execution of the design. He was taken ill of a fever and died in three days.

The expedition now seemed at a stand; Mr. Sharp stood involved in all the expenses attending the outset; the demurrage of the vessel had commenced, and the weekly pay to the settlers continued. In this situation government again interfered; provision was made for transporting and supplying them with necessaries for the first six or eight months of their residence in Africa. Captain Thompson was appointed to accompany them in a sloop of war, and to see the promises of Mr. Sharp fulfilled; at last the little fleet sailed, on the 8th of April, 1787.

As the history of this colony, now so respectable, is that of the cradle of African civilization, Mr. Prince Hoare has given an account of its establishment and progress, to the period of its final surrender into the hands of government.

He subjoins Mr. Sharp's letters, during all the harassing events which took place in the infant colony, with his regulations and documents, fully manifesting the endeavour of a Christian to establish and support a state of entire social freedom and justice by the power only of a single hand.

With men casually selected from whatever description, hopes of such a nature must have proved fallacious. Reason and tenderness are not sufficient to maintain order without authority, much less to restore it when interrupted. But though he perceived the necessity of having recourse to the strength of the company incorporated by an act of parliament, he could not but regret the demolition of that ideal fabric of happiness which he wished to raise for an afflicted part of mankind. Mr. Prince Hoare says, he has witnessed the struggles of his mind on that occasion; once only on paper such remarks appear as evince his disappointment, "that the poor blacks were no longer proprietors of the whole district as before, as the land had been granted to the Sierra Leone Company, so that they no longer enjoyed the privileges of granting land by free votes of their own council, nor the benefit of their former agrarian law, nor the choice of

their own governor, nor any circumstances of perfect freedom, as proposed in the regulations—all these privileges being submitted to the control and appointment of the company; and no settler can trade independently of it." He adds, "But I could not prevent this humiliating change, the settlement must have remained desolate, if I had not submitted to the opinion of the subscribers. However, all slavery, and the oppression of imposed labour, are absolutely prohibited."

The accomplishment of this charter put an end to the laborious, and almost unprecedented efforts of an individual, during some years, to support an undertaking of such magnitude: henceforward he only shared in exertions with men whose devotedness to the cause may be thought to merit precedence in the high distinctions of virtue and philanthropy.

But though Granville Sharp mingled with the general body of Directors, a superior respect attached to his name among the colonies of Africa. Naimbana, the sovereign chief of Sierra Leone, whose disposition little corresponded with the prejudice of Europeans respecting his class (for he was peaceable, benevolent, desirous of knowledge, and afforded protection to all who were capable of it) sent his eldest son to England to Granville Sharp, entreating him to direct the education of the young prince, who proved to be endowed with the most engaging qualities: a desire of learning, an application to books, the most grateful sense of kindness, and estimation of his instructors, joined to a delicacy of manners as winning as it was extraordinary, were the characteristics of this amiable youth, who died on his arrival at Sierra Leone, universally lamented. From his virtues, intellect, and exertions, the company might have expected the most important services. One indeed he rendered, by furnishing a memorable example of the effect of education on the mind of Africans, and a happy presage in favour of his unenlightened countrymen.

We refer the readers to the work in question for the interesting particulars of the decease of this excellent man. It was gradual and gentle, and distinguished by peace at the last.

His amiable conduct in domestic life, the cheerfulness of his temper, and his tenderness to every human being in his circle, extending to the brute creation, are detailed with much

affection by Mr. Prince Hoare, and furnish a shining instance that particular attachment is not weakened by universal benevolence.

Equally void of diffidence and presumption, he obtained access to men in the highest stations, less from his near descent from an archbishop, than his own virtues and amenity of manners. He used his influence only for the good of others. The slave trade—the abolition of slavery—the establishment of the colony of Sierra Leone, of episcopacy and peace in the American colonies, were the object of his exertions.

The entire abolition of the slave trade took place March 1808. The bill passed by the strenuous exertions of Lord Grenville, and was confirmed by the royal assent a few minutes only before the ministers resigned their offices.

It was necessary that a spring should be moved which might affect the wheels of government and public action, and take its direction on the most solid base: the latter had been prepared by the association of benevolent men; the former was added by the virtues, the political rank, and talents of Mr. Wilberforce.

Admiration and reverence can seldom be directed to characters more honourable than those, who in this mighty cause will ever stand united; Granville Sharp and William Wilberforce, of the one who founded, and the other who crowned the work of African deliverance.

#### MR. KEAN.

*The following observations on Mr. Kean's acting, are of so old a date as June, 1815, when they appeared in the 'Critical Review.'*

That Mr. Kean possesses an active untutored genius we are desirous to admit; but we deny that he possesses a judgment to model its course. His great forte is originality; and originality of conception, united with grandeur of action, are powerful theatrical attributes. But to what object is this talent directed? To new readings of Shakspeare by a very young man, whose life, like that of Sylvester Dagherwood, has been devoted to the enactment of every species of dramatic mummery, from Alexander the Great, to Harlequin, in a petty provincial theatre.

Persons accustomed to look through false optics, and flattered in their delusion, seldom like to peep into the

mirror of truth. We do not, now, hold it up "to wound, but to amend." Not to be diffuse in our retrospect, we will select Garrick from the old school, and inquire what were his deficiencies in the reading of Shakspeare. Dramatic critics tell us he was a scholar, a wit, a gentleman, and so peculiarly gifted by nature, that he was, equally, the chaste representative of tragedy, and of comedy.

May we not, therefore, presume he could read Shakspeare as well as Mr. Kean? we will put the latter to the test.

We well remember being half killed, in crowding to the third row of the pit, on Mr. Kean's debut in Hamlet. It was the first time we had seen him; and the impression, at his appearance, was indeed unfavourable. His approach was not marked with the deep toned melancholy of the Danish prince; but with an air of shrewd suspicion, which the vivid glances of his inquisitive eyes, proclaimed to be the ruling action of his mind. But this novelty was soon lost in others equally absurd; till in his scene with Ophelia, where he rudely desires her to retire to a nunnery, he suddenly arrested his hurried exit; and in a solemn pace, returned to kiss the lady's hand.

It is not easy to describe the pealing applause, that almost without ceasing, thundered through the house. It now vibrates on our ears. What shall we say? In candour we will admit that the treatment Ophelia receives in this scene, from Hamlet, is always repulsive to our finer feelings; but we went to see the illustration of Shakspeare's text: and the propriety of this, as it were unpremeditated tenderness, is contradicted by the subsequent speech from the king, on quitting his concealment with Polonius.\*

If, therefore, this new reading were agreeable, it was evidently unclassical. We will not speak of the person and accomplishments attributed by our immortal poet to his Hamlet; for Mr. Kean's physical deficiencies are not the objects of our criticism; but we will say, that all the sublime soliloquies in Hamlet, require the polished declamation of a scholar; and, that a prince should always bear the

outward and visible characteristics of a gentleman. In this reasonable expectation, however, we were much disappointed, particularly in the grave scene.

Mr. Kean's fencing has been loudly applauded. But we were taught by the late Angelo, that safety ought never to be sacrificed to grace; and Mr. Kean's attitudes constantly exposed him to danger—his *allongement* is much beyond the power of recovery. But, then, he dies so admirably! Granted.

In Richard, Mr. Kean has a more natural scope for his abilities. His countenance is peculiarly susceptible of great variety, and his eyes are irresistible. The meaner passions of human nature are best suited to his talents. His hypocrisy is admirable; but when Richard is divested of all art, and appears towards the close of the play, in his natural character—the brave, lofty, and desperate tyrant, is lost in insignificance.

Mr. Kean has no skill in dignity. In Iago, he is too much the bare-faced villain. Even the confiding, generous, noble minded Othello, must have been wrought into suspicion by perfidy so glaring.

In Othello, he wants every attraction. The magnanimous Moor displays his virtues in grandeur. The beautiful Desdemona, full of her sex's softness, yet capable of fortitude, could never have fallen in love with such a black man as Mr. Kean.

On Macbeth, we shall be silent; it is an effort of temerity which, we presume, nothing but blind popularity could ever induce Mr. Kean to attempt; but of Romeo, we will say a few words.

We are told, in panegyrics laboured through whole columns of the daily press, that in this character, Mr. Kean surpassed himself. He gave *new* beauties to his Romeo—he was, forsooth, a heroic lover.

Monstrous idolatry! Romeo—the pretty, whining, romantic, love-sick, Romeo—a heroic lover! "O tell it not in Gath; nor publish it in the streets of Ascalon!" These are, indeed, new readings with a vengeance!

Luke is unquestionably Mr. Kean's best performance. Like the M'Sycophant of Cooke, it seems to be altogether his own. In that character he may be tame without servility, and imperious without nobility.—No one will ever ask him to look like a gentleman.

\* KING—"Love!—his affections do not that way tend;  
For what he spake, though it lack'd form a little,  
Was not like madness!"

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## SELECTED POETRY.

'FALLING LEAVES'—BY JOHN CLARE,  
The Northampton Peasant.

Hail, falling Leaves! that patter round,  
Admonishers and friends;  
Reflection wakens at the sound—  
So, Life, thy pleasure ends.

How frail the bloom, how short the stay,  
That terminates us all!  
To day we flourish green and gay,  
Like leaves to-morrow fall.

Alas! how short is fourscore years,  
Life's utmost stretch,—a span;  
And shorter still, when past, appears  
The vain, vain life of man.

These falling leaves once haunted high,  
O pride! how vain to trust:  
Now wither'd on the ground they lie,  
And mingled with the dust.

So death serves all—and wealth and pride  
Must all their pomp resign;  
E'en kings shall lay their crowns aside,  
To mix their dust with mine.

The leaves, how once they cloth'd the trees,  
None's left behind to tell;  
The branch is naked to the breeze;  
We know not whence they fell.

A few more years, and I the same  
As they are now, shall be,  
With nothing left to tell my name,  
Or answer, "Who was he?"

Green turf's allow'd forgotten heap  
Is all that I shall have,  
Save that the little daisies creep  
To deck my humble grave.

## THE SETTING SUN.

By the same.

This scene, how beautiful to a musing mind,  
That now swift slides from my enchanted  
view,

The sun sweet setting yon far hills behind,  
In other worlds his visits to renew:  
What spangled glories all around him shine;  
What nameless colours, cloudless and serene,  
(A heavenly prospect, brightest in decline.)  
Attend his exit from this lovely scene.

So sets the Christian's sun, in glories clear;  
So shines his soul at his departure here:  
No clouding doubts, nor misty fears arise,  
To dim Hope's golden rays of being forgiven;  
His sun, sweet setting in the clearest skies,  
In Faith's assurance wings the soul to heaven.

## ODE TO THE PASS OF KIRKSTONE.

BY WOODSWORTH.

Within the mind strong fancies work,  
A deep delight the bosom thrills,  
Oft as I pass along the fork  
Of these fraternal hills:  
Where, save the rugged road, we find  
No appanage of human kind;  
Nor hint of man, if stone or rock  
Seem not his handy work to mock  
By something cognisably shaped;  
Mockery—or model—roughly hewn,  
And left as if by earthquake strewn,  
Or from the flood escaped:—  
Altars for Druid service fit;  
(But where no fire was ever lit  
Unless the glow-worm to the skies  
Thence offer nightly sacrifice;)  
Wrinkled Egyptian monument;  
Green moss-grown tower, or hoary tent;  
Tents of a camp that never shall be raised;  
On which four thousand years have gazed!

Ye plowshares sparkling on the slopes!  
Ye snow-white lambs that trip  
Imprison'd mid the formal props  
Of restless ownership!  
Ye trees that may to-morrow fall,  
To feed the insatiate Prodigal!  
Lawns, houses, chattels, groves, and fields,  
All that the fertile valley shields;  
Wages of folly—baits of crime,—  
Of life's uneasy game the stake,—  
Playthings that keep the eyes awake  
Of drowsy, dotard time;—  
O care! O guilt!—O vales and plains  
Here, mid his own unvexed domains,  
A Genius dwells, that can subdue  
At once all memory of you,—  
Most potent when mists veil the sky,  
Mists that distort and magnify;  
While the coarse rushes, to the sweeping  
breeze,  
Sigh forth their ancient melodies!  
List to those shriller notes!—that march  
Perchance was on the blast,  
When through this height's inverted arch  
Rome's earliest legion passed!  
—They saw, adventurously impell'd,  
And older eyes than theirs beheld,  
This block—and yon whose church-like frame  
Gives to the savage pass its name.  
Aspiring road! that lov'st to hide  
Thy daring in a vapoury bourn,  
Not seldom may the hour return  
When thou shalt be my guide;  
And I (as often we find cause,  
When life is at a weary pause,  
And we have panted up the hill  
Of duty with reluctant will)  
Be thankful, even though tired and faint,  
For the rich bounties of constraint;  
Whence oft invigorating transports flow  
That choice lacked courage to bestow!

My soul was grateful for delight  
That wore a threatening brow;  
A veil is lifted—can she slight  
The scene that opens now?  
Though habitation none appear,  
The greenness tells, man must be there;  
The shelter—that the perspective  
Is of the clime in which we live;  
Where toil pursues his daily round;  
Where pity sheds sweet tears, and love,  
In woodbine bower or birchen grove,  
Inflicts his tender wound.

—Who comes not hither ne'er shall know  
How beautiful the world below;  
Nor can he guess how lightly leaps  
The brook adown the rocky steeps.  
Farewell thou desolate domain!  
Hope, pointing to the cultur'd plain,  
Carols like a shepherd boy;  
And who is she?—can that be Joy?  
Who, with a sun-beam for her guide,  
Smoothly skims the meadows wide;  
While faith, from yonder opening cloud,  
To bill and vale proclaims aloud,  
'What'er the weak may dread the wicked dare,  
Thy lot, O man, is good, thy portion fair!'

## STANZAS.

I cannot mourn that time has fled,  
Though in its flight some joys have perish'd;  
I cannot mourn that hopes are dead  
Which my young heart too dearly cherish'd.

For time has brought me as it past  
More valued joys than those it banish'd,  
And hope has o'er the future cast  
Still brighter hues, as others vanish'd.

Nor can I mourn that days are gone  
With many a heart-felt sorrow laden—

Nor will I grieve o'er pleasures flown,  
That early glow'd—and quickly faded.  
For Time with kind and gentle sway,  
Still softens every passing sorrow—  
And though it steals one joy to day,  
It adds another on the morrow.— A.

## THE BACHELOR'S BOAST,

Together with its refutation.

I live a calm untroubled life,  
Nor slave to Love, nor Folly's minion;  
I woo no mistress, wed no wife,  
In act unshackled, or opinion.

My friends, my books, my fields, my all  
The melodies of woodland mountains,  
The thrush's song, the cuckoo's call,  
The distant hush of falls and fountains.

O'er setting suns the blush that burns,  
The glories of the moonlight heaven—  
On these my bosom's fondness turns;  
I ask but these, and these are given.

Unbroken on life's rocky shore,  
Like some light heaving wave I wander,  
Rejoice amid the tempest's roar,  
Or bask in calms, now here now yonder.

Of womankind I take no heed;  
In truth, I neither hate nor love them;  
My joys were grovelling joys indeed,  
That would not soar a flight above them.

## THE ANSWER.

Thy freedom's boast is false and vain;  
Some land thou art not worth invading:  
Disdain'd thyself, thou feign'st disdain,  
Thy lonely spleen for joy parading.

List what the voice of Nature says,  
By which thy fancy's ear is taken;  
Mute are thy thrush's quivering lays,  
Till love, sweet love, his song doth waken.

Like Thee, thy cuckoo builds no nest,  
Nor soft domestic joys are near him;  
He lives thy life of cold unrest,  
And gentler birds despise or fear him.

Thy falls, so hush'd in summer eve,  
Through winter days discordant bellow;  
The flocks their dangerous margents leave,  
Nor find'st thy fretful age a fellow.

In setting suns and moon-beams fair,  
There dwells a bliss by Thee untasted,  
Which only those who love can share;  
On Thee such moments are but wasted.

Nor is thy wave, so light and free,  
Condemn'd as thou to lonely sadness;  
With it full many waves there be,  
To bide the storm, or dance in gladness.

And when it sinks, its waters heave  
Transmitted through some kindred billow;  
But thy cold blood shall never leave,  
One rill beyond thy dying pillow.

## VARIETIES.

PROSERS.

There are men, often of inaccurate mind, but fond of talk, and when their memories fail they borrow of their imaginations. A shepherd lad told his master that he had seen a hundred and five crows in one of his fields. You cannot count so many, replied the farmer; possibly not, sir, replied the boy, but I counted five, and I dare say there were an hundred beside.

## RUMFORD STOVES.

Though these enclosed fire-places certainly save a deal of fuel, by reflecting the heat and preventing its escape, yet they must be prejudicial to health. The contrivance can only be defended on the same principles which the gentleman made use of to some robbers (in the suspense of his reasoning powers through alarm) "My good friends, pray spare my money and take my life."

## HINTS TO LADIES OF FASHION.

How many useful lessons in life may we receive from observing the instincts and habits of animals to whom we deny reason. Many a splendid beauty, thus instructed, would quit the ball room before midnight with great advantage to the freshness of her bloom and the lustre of her eyes, if she were told that the glow-worm is never seen to shine after eleven o'clock, p. m.

## THE SAME.

Many a grave doctor in both universities seems to have taken a lesson from the exterior and habits of the Athenian bird sitting in an ivy-bush. A bushy wig, an occasional harsh snapping of the beak, with most solemn gravity of countenance, have given them an air of importance which nature, unassisted, would never have bestowed.

## LOVE OF ROMANCES.

Nothing proves the discontent of mankind so clearly as the love of those tales which bring them into a new world. The readers of romances wish for magicians to build, and furnish their palaces, angels to live in them, and fairies to be always within call to execute every command of whim and caprice.

## GRUMBLERS.

The late Gilbert Wakefield, in a life written by himself, says, on such a day I entered this planet. Poor man, it seems he mistook his way, as he never was satisfied with the place or its inhabitants. Now, all grumblers seem in the same predicament: a man whose genius and disposition qualified him to inhabit the planet Saturn, might have by ill chance entered that of Venus, &c.;

And so when mortals go astray,  
The stars are more in fault than they.

## COURTSHIP.

Should a man in purchasing an horse praise it up to the skies, could he then expect to have it at his own valuation? would not the seller raise his? So in courtship, when the poor lover overrates the charms of his mistress by flattery and exaggerated praise, can he wonder that the lady does not think that he bids high enough for so much excellence? and does not take sighs and tears as part of the purchase?

## PARTIES OF PLEASURE.

Some modern philosophers assert very roundly that what is true in theory must prove true also in practice. These

\* White's History of Selborne.

pages never planned or executed a party of pleasure, or as they would soon have discovered how well designed and plausible theories terminate in most unfortunate results of practice. The felicity hunter soon finds the truth of the poet's words.—

The ample proposition that hope makes

In all designs begun on earth below,

Fails in the promised largeness

Shakspeare's *Troilus and Cressida*.

## ILL-TEMPERS.

Sullen and morose persons are seldom attracted by persons of gentle and elegant tempers, but seem more naturally attached to men of gloomy and sour dispositions, and choose such for their friends and companions. Philosophers have discovered that the hard flint can only be dissolved by an acid.

## MEMORY.

Wise men and fools often appear to have the same quantity of memory, and differ only in the quality of the things remembered. An equal quantity of coins and counters would appear numerically the same in the eyes, though not in the estimation, of the calculator. The truly wise and reflecting man is the real coin. His learning favours not the school-like gloss, That most consists in echoing words and terms, And soonest wins a man an empty name; But a direct and analytic sum Of all the worth and first effects of art.

B. Johnson's *Poetaster*.

## PEDANT, WITS, AND MEN OF GENIUS.

Lilly, the grammarian, represents learning by the symbol of a tree, which we all in youth have gazed at with delight. Let us pursue the imagery in describing the above characters. The pedant goes no farther than the leaves, the wit arrives at the blossoms, but the man of genius alone, by diligence and perseverance, obtains the fruit.

## HUMILITY.

I do not know a more persuasive argument to a man of reflection in favour of this virtue, than the fact that pride is the favourite passion of those who have lost their senses. Mad Tom calls his stick a sceptre, his ragged hat his crown, and his miserable straw cell his room of audience.

He that is proud eats up himself; pride is  
His own glass, his own trumpet, his own chronicle,

And whatever praises itself but in  
The deed, devours the deed in praise.

Shakspeare's *Troilus and Cressida*.

## VANITY AND PRIDE.

These qualities of the mind, though easily distinguished, are often confounded in common speech. The vain man cannot live without the praises or admiration of those around him. Even fools must admire him, or he dies. The proud man affects to despise all praise which he cannot extort by his superior talents or station. The vain man, like the monkey, uses a thousand arts and grimaces to gain your attention. The proud man, like the lion, roars to inspire you with awe and terror.

## THE SAME.

If there were less vanity and more pride, the world would loose much of its unhappiness and disquiet. Pope was a vain man, and Dean Swift a proud one. The pamphlets which were levelled against Pope's reputation, and which made him feel all the horrors of irritated and injured vanity, would have had no effect on the haughty mind of the Dean of St. Patrick's. Swift did not wish to court, but command, the approbation of the world.

## ARGUMENT.

We often find persons in conversation take up their opponent's illustration, and make it the ground of their argument. This seems an error not less ridiculous than he would commit who should attempt to shave the chin he sees reflected or illustrated in the glass instead of his own. It is dangerous to play with edged tools or sharp disputants.

## EPITAPHS.

I have often wished these false records of the deceased were written upon oath. We should then have less falsehood in compositions wherein truth would be so desirable and useful, and our churches that boast of symmetry and good architecture, would not so often be disgraced by these sublime panegyrics. I have heard a friend, who loved punning even on such grave subjects, declare, that the only assertions which epitaphs in general could boast as true, were the initial words "Here lieth."

## DULL MEN

Do well in society. They cement the various characters, and keep them close together, as they never raise suspicions of exerting any finesse to effect their purposes. Lead, the heaviest of metals, is made use of to join together and solder the varieties of metals which require an ornament superior to what lead itself could aspire to.

## MINOR SCHOLARS.

Persons of this description supply their lack of real parts and wisdom by abundance of cunning. They are careful of displaying their erudition, unless they meet with persons who are totally devoid of it. The glow-worm is known to shine with the greater success by the advantage of surrounding darkness.

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